

**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**Municipal Police Training Academy**

**Community College of Rhode Island — Flanagan Campus**

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**Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell Lieutenant Scott N. Raynes**

**Commissioner, Department of Public Safety Executive Director**

**Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police Municipal Police Training Academy**

**Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training**

**Meeting Minutes**

**November 19, 2015**

**1. Welcome and Roll Call**

**Chief Anthony Pesare called to order the regular meeting of the Police Officers Commission on Standards & Training (POST) at 10:10 a.m. on November 19, 2015.**

**Chief Pesare asked Donna Lavallee to take a roll call. The following POST members were present: Chief Anthony Pesare, Chief Edward Mello, Chief Palmer, Shawn Brown and Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Barry (appointed designee for Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell). Also present were Captain Ann Assumpico, Lieutenant Scott Raynes, David Ricciarelli, Mr. Richard B. Woolley Esq., Mr. Paul Andrews, Esq., Paul Dutra and Donna Lavallee.**

## **2. Approval of the minutes**

**Chief Pesare asked for approval of the minutes from the last meetings dated August 20, 2015. Mr. Brown made a motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 20, 2015; Chief Palmer seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, the motion carries. Chief Pesare asked for approval of the minutes from the Special meeting dated September 17, 2015. Mr. Brown made a motion to accept the minutes of the Special meeting of September 17, 2015; Chief Palmer seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.**

## **3. Administrative fee for municipal departments**

**Lieutenant Colonel Barry spoke of imposing an additional cost spread out to the municipalities to fund the Academy. He stated it would be a pilot program right now in which they would look for a small flat fee that municipal departments would pay once a year, whether or not they have anyone in the Academy.**

**Lieutenant Raynes added that the Academy now provides training at no cost. He understands that the departments provide instructors; however, the budget here is minimal. The Academy budget is \$254,000.00 and of that, \$212,000.00 is for salaries and benefits and \$20,000.00 is for rent at CCRI. The class spends the majority of their time at Camp Fogarty, where they would like to stay full time. They have moved into the Command Building as a trial program. Right now, there is no talk of charging a fee but once in the new building, that could change. The fee would cover instructor fees and equipment and such for training. Chief Pesare stated that some departments cannot dedicate resources as they are small or**

understaffed. He said it seems that the State of Rhode Island is lacking in funding and because of that, shouldn't be passed to the cities and towns. The danger to charging a fee may be the departments not sending help. Chief Palmer suggested that if there is a fee, it should be in relationship to how many officers are in the department because the smaller departments may not send a recruit for training in years. Lieutenant Raynes stated that this would cover in-service training as well and everyone is using that. Chief Mello stated that he feels once they start paying, the fees will increase. He suggested looking further into the JAG Grant for monies. He also asked what the thought process is in leaving CCRI, as he feels that will be a sticking point for many Chiefs. Lieutenant Raynes stated that we couldn't leave CCRI as Camp Fogarty is not conducive to Con-Ed programs. However, he does not feel that CCRI is Academy-oriented and they try to keep the recruits away as much as possible. Chief Mello asked if they might offer Camp Fogarty a fee to stay. He also stated that he should be prepared for criticism from the Police Chiefs about leaving CCRI. Lieutenant Raynes stated that Camp Fogarty is on Federal land so at any time, they could tell us to leave. He doesn't foresee that happening as there is a good relationship right now with them and especially Cpl. Chabot. Chief Pesare asked if we moved from CCRI, would that free up the \$20,000.00 rent and doesn't the state statute require that the Academy be housed on state land?

Mr. Woolley stated that according to State Statute, no tuition fee shall be assessed for attendance at the Academy. Chief Mello then asked

what the status of the unified academy is. Lieutenant Raynes replied that he just received the final report for the facility proposed at Ladd Center. One rendering is \$19 million and other is \$26 ½ million dollars.

Chief Pesare asked if under the Byrne Grant, can the Academy be part of a formula to receive a yearly stipend. David Ricciarelli responded that he is in constant contact with David Ledoux and they are seeing a reduction in funds. Mr. Brown stated that he would be in fear of opening the door to this as he is unsure if the monies will stay here and it would be an uphill battle. Chief Mello stated he understands the logistics with the money for the Continuing Education and he feels there are opportunities out there, even if its by paying a fee.

Chief Pesare thanked everyone for the input and discussion on this matter.

#### **4. Arming Campus Police**

Lieutenant Colonel Barry asked that this Agenda item be tabled.

#### **5. Request for approval of Firearms Qualification Courses**

- Cranston Police Department
- Newport Police Department
- North Kingstown Police Department
- North Smithfield Police Department
- Warwick Police Department
- Woonsocket Police Department

Lieutenant Raynes stated that he, along with Captain Phil Gould, our Lead Firearms Instructor, reviewed the Firearms qualification courses

**for the above departments and they have met all of the requirements and therefore, he is recommending approval.**

**Mr. Brown made a motion to approve all of the above-named Firearms Qualification Courses; Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.**

#### **6. Approval of the Newport Police Department SWAT Team Certification:**

**Lieutenant Raynes stated that Captain Hannon and members of RITOA have reviewed the Newport PD's SWAT team and they have met, and exceeded, all of the requirements for re-certification. He is recommending approval.**

**Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the Newport Police Department SWAT team for re-certification; Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.**

#### **7. Approval for certification of the Providence PD Basic SWAT Operator Course:**

**Lieutenant Raynes stated the program was changed slightly since 2012 but the rest of it remains the same and after reviewing the course, he is recommending approval.**

**Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the Providence PD Basic SWAT Operator Course for re-certification; Chief Palmer seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.**

## **8. Approval for certification of the Providence PD Basic Patrol Rifle Operator Course**

Lieutenant Raynes stated that other than the addition of two instructors, there are no changes and he recommends approval of this course for re-certification.

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the Providence PD Basic Patrol Rifle Operator Course for re-certification; Chief Palmer seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.

## **9. Approval of an extension for the East Providence's SWAT Team re-certification**

Lieutenant Raynes explained that he was contacted by Lt. Ramer who stated that their computer server crashed and they are in the process of recovering the records. Due to this malfunction, they are unable to present the adequate paperwork to RITOA by November 30th for review. They have asked for a 30-day extension. Captain Hannon is in agreement but the question is, what happens if they receive a call out before their re-certification is approved.

Chief Pesare stated that when their certification expires, they cannot operate during December.

Chief Pesare made a motion that the East Providence SWAT Team shall be granted a 30-day extension, to be re-certified in 30 days. During the period of the extension, they shall not be authorized to

**operate. Mr. Brown accepted the motion; Lieutenant Colonel Barry seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, motion carries.**

**Under discussion, Mr. Brown stated that the City Council should be made aware of this. Lieutenant Raynes assured him that he will talk to Lieutenant Ramer.**

## **10. Update on Continuing Education**

**David Ricciarelli reviewed some of our upcoming Training workshops.**

## **11. Update on Class 2015-II**

**Lieutenant Raynes stated that the class is now in Week 19 at Role Play. All 43 recruits are expected to graduate on December 15th. We held Orientation for the January class and the P/T testing will be Saturday, November 21st.**

## **12. Adjournment**

**Lieutenant Colonel added before closing that the Sheriff's Department is hiring and they have an on-line recruitment. Also, there will be a hiring process in the near future for Capitol Police.**

**Lieutenant Colonel Barry made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Chief Mello seconded the motion. With all in favor, 5-0, meeting was**

**adjourned at 11:12 a.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Donna M. Lavallee**

**Administrative Assistant**